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CZECHOSLOVAK SCRAP DRIVE FOR CEMENTED CARBIDE  
AND INDUSTRIAL DIAMOND WASTE

Statement. The following article is a condensation of a decree appearing in the Official Gazette of Czechoslovakia. This decree is the result of the first effort to legislate a centralized scrap collection drive for scarce raw materials. In the past there have been many scrap drives (see CO-4-23704), mostly sporadic, but none based on actual legislation.

The Czechoslovak Ministry of Light Industry, in conjunction with the Ministry of Metallurgy and the Ore Mines and of Heavy Machine Building, has passed a decree whereby the collection of cemented carbide and industrial diamond waste becomes obligatory. For the purpose of the decree, cemented carbide waste is defined as all waste from cemented carbide steels, as well as carbon steel tips of discarded and unusable cutting tools. Industrial diamond waste is defined as all waste from industrial diamonds, as well as discarded and unusable diamond-cutting tools.

The decree makes it obligatory for any person under whose jurisdiction such waste occurs to submit it in a safe place. Carbon steel tips of cutting tools and other cemented carbides must be separated from their mountings and sorted according to size and type. Diamonds, however, shall be removed only by the Enterprise of the First Five-Year Plan, a National Enterprise, in Sumperk. All such sorted waste must be offered to the Enterprise of the First Five-Year Plan for purchase within 10 days after the first of each month.

The Enterprise of the First Five-Year Plan is required, in turn, to purchase all waste offered within one month of the date of the offer at the latest. In the case of cemented carbides offered for purchase, the Enterprise of the First Five-Year Plan may delay purchasing such waste until there is available an accumulation of at least one half a kilogram.

The decree became effective on 1 December 1952.

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